

REMARKS

Claim 1 was amended to remove the “optional recess”, since the same fastener comprising both a “recess” and the “free end” was claimed in the Parent Patent Application 10/164,963, filed 06/07/2002.

Applicants respectfully request addition of new claims 33 – 74 in the Application.

Independent claims 33 and 47 find support in the Specification on page 2, lines 17-19, page 4, lines 22-24, page 5, line 15 to page 6, line 10, page 11, lines 7-10, page 16, lines 14-23, and Figures 4A and 4B, among other places. Claims 34-46 and 48-60, depending from claims 33 and 47, respectively find support in the original claims 1-32 as combined with the above support of claims 33 and 47.

Independent claim 61 finds support in the Specification on page 2, lines 17-19, page 4, lines 22-24, page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 11, page 11, lines 7-10, and page 16, lines 25-26, among other places. Claims 62-74 find support in the original claims 1-32 as combined with the above support of claim 61.

The paragraph on page 6, lines 13-15 of the Specification was amended to correct an obviously inadvertent word repetition

A fee amounting to \$412.00 is submitted herewith, calculated as follows:

1 independent claim in excess of three X \$43.00 =	\$ 43.00
41 total additional claims X \$9.00 =	<u>\$369.00</u>
TOTAL	\$412.00